

REMARKS

Applicants have considered the November 1, 2006 Office Action, and the amendments above together with the comments that follow are presented in a bona fide effort to address all issues raised in that Action and thereby place this case in condition for allowance. Claims 1-10 were pending in this application. Claims 2-4 and 6-10 were allowed; claim 5 was rejected; and claim 1 was objected to for a minor informality.

In response to the Office Action dated November 1, 2006, claim 5 has been canceled and claim 1 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue. Entry of the present Amendment is respectfully solicited. It is believed that this response places this case in condition for allowance. Hence, prompt favorable reconsideration of this case is solicited.

The Examiner is requested to consider the Information Disclosure Statements previously submitted on December 15, 2006 and October 26, 2006. The Examiner is respectfully requested to forward Applicants an appropriately initialed copy of the PTO-1449 forms with the next Office communication.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 are solicited in view of the foregoing amendment to claim 1 to address the typographical error.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated over Takanari (JP 202-232230). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 5 is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 5.

It is believed that pending claims 1-4 and 6-10 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request an early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application. If there are any outstanding issues which might be resolved by an interview or

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an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' representative at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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